February 12, 2019

Esteemed Committee,

I have recently become aware of HB 5123, regarding use of eminent domain for commercial purposes. I begrudgingly support eminent domain at large. I can see instances when the state or municipalities would need private land – such as for a major infrastructure project. However, I also think the property rights of citizens should be respected. So, fair compensation seems like a good compromise. Eminent domain should only be used for projects that benefit the public good, not for commercial purposes. To do so would turn states and municipalities into a strong arm for private corporations, which I fervently oppose.

Thank you for your consideration.

Melanie Finn-Scofield

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